

I oppose media concentration!

It surprises me that EVERYONE is not talking about your plans to further deregulate media ownership at the June 2, 2003 FCC meeting. This is a huge

challenge to the concept of a democratic culture where individual voices can be heard in the community and government is structured around the rights of all to participate and have a voice. In my city of Philadelphia we have two daily newspapers, both owned by the same company. Where is the debate? Yes, we have weekly papers, but they cannot compete on the same level.

The deregulation of media ownership that has already been instituted has drastically reduced the quality of radio and TV broadcasting. We now have "McDonald's News and Music," - the same selection of information and tunes no matter where you go. Since a large part of the population gets its information from TV and radio, this has deeply challenged the development of and participation of informed citizens.

This is why EVERYONE is not screaming about this - because we have not been informed. The corporations, which now own these large chunks of information sources, must not want the people (to whom the airwaves truly belong) to have a voice.

We criticize other countries for having highly controlled information availability. That is what deregulation is doing to the citizens of the United States. The controller in our case is the corporate ownership of the vast majority of media sources.

With this move to facilitate the increased power of corporations to control our information you are allowing the corporations to control the government.

Whom are you serving, FCC, Senate, President??? Your move to deregulate and increase the power of corporate owners says to me you are leaving the citizenry in the dust .

As I see it, your job is to make sure the citizenry's rights are protected (including the rights to use of the airwaves), not sold out.

STOP.

NO MORE DEREGULATION OF MEDIA OWNERSHIP -

especially if you have not spent time going around the country, getting the word of your intentions out loud and clear to all the citizens, and providing an opportunity for us to be heard on this issue.

The fact that you are keeping this as quiet as possible - shame on you.

Sincerely,

Susan Jordhamo

